

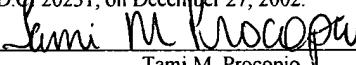


PATENT
Docket No. 246152012710

Client Reference 02818 US/DIV1/VS

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 27, 2002.


Tami M. Procopio

#10C
1/8/03
[Redacted]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Wilhelmus Theodorus Antonius Maria
DE LAAT, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/982,474

Filing Date: 17 October 2001

For: INDUSTRIAL PROCESS FOR
β-LACTAM ANTIBIOTICS USING
CHEMICALLY DEFINED MEDIA
(Amended)

Examiner: Randall O. Winston

Group Art Unit: 1651

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE --
EXAMINING GROUP 1651

JAN 07 2003
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office action herein mailed 27 August 2002, time for response to which was set to expire 27 November 2002. A petition for an extension of time of one (1) month until 27 December 2002 is attached hereto, along with the required fee. The pending claims, claims 1-8, 15-16, 19-20 and 36-37 were rejected and the rejection was made final. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Enclosed is the following Exhibit A: Version With Markings To Show Changes Made.